

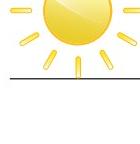
Kansas State Collegian

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the track & field team
did this weekend

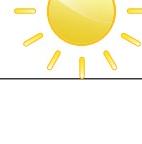
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monday, february 20, 2012

vol. 117 | no. 100



Tomorrow:
High: 53 F
Low: 32 F



Wednesday:
High: 56 F
Low: 37 F

03

Think pink
Read how the women's
basketball team did in their
annual Play 4Kay game.

04

Blaming the 'bad' guy
See why Brian Hampel thinks
demonizing villains affects
society on the opinion page.



Take our weekly poll!
Take a peek at the poll question
on page 4, then head to
kstatecollegian.com to vote.

Rap duo aims to challenge stereotypes

Haley Rose
staff writer

"Take a bottle of college life and a bottle of hip-hop, pour a drink, and that shot is what our music is," said Abe Alem, K-State alumnus in electrical engineering, who returned to Manhattan on Saturday night performing as one half of the rap and hip-hop duo, F-14.

The other half of F-14 is Wayne Valentine, graduate in audio engineering from the Conservatory of Recording Arts and Sciences in Tempe, Ariz.

"The music itself is a representation of us," Valentine said. "But hip-hop has negative connotation, we want to change those perceptions."

The duo, originally from Manhattan, met in first grade at Theodore Roosevelt Elementary. After college, they moved to Oklahoma for separate jobs, but through a series of fortunate events wound up together again and began making music.

"It's a daily thing for us," Valentine said. "Some people write in a diary, we write music."

All of F-14's original music is created by Valentine, who Alem assured doesn't use buttons to make the music. "He's a musician, it's all real," Alem said.

F-14 performed on Saturday night at Lucky's Live in Aggierville to a crowd of loyal fans as well as unsuspecting bar patrons.

"You see the real fans up front," said Steve Melton, steadfast fan and friend of F-14, who was an undergraduate student in electrical engineering with Alem. "But if you look in the back, you see people bobbing their heads. They're fans too, they just don't know it."

The music, according to Alem and Valentine, is about them and their lives. Every song reflects an aspect of their lives or a life experience, but that doesn't mean it is all drama and aggressive lyrics.

"We grew up in Kansas," said Alem. "We aren't gangsters. We make non-violent hip-hop. We're changing a stereotype. Although, I did get shot a few days ago. But it was just a flu shot. I had a Batman Band-Aid."

Their mission to change the labels associated with the hip-hop genre has garnered them respect from fellow musicians in the area, two of whom are rappers who perform locally as well as in surrounding areas like Kansas City.

Emmanuel Sowell and Mark Hanson, who go by the stage names of E-Man and Sabertooth, were both in the audience Saturday night. They said they make a point to attend F-14's shows whenever they perform in town.

"I love what they're doing," Sowell said. "Real hip-hop is artistic, not about violence or drug selling. What I love about hip-hop these days is that you can be yourself, you don't need a gimmick to do it well."

Alem, who said he studied electrical engineering in college specifically to learn how music worked, takes being himself on stage to the next level by adding a quasi-comedy show to F-14's set.

"Girls," he bellowed into the audience between songs, "get with a nerd. You get a boyfriend and free tech support. Two for one."

Saturday night also marked the filming of another music video for F-14. Local videographer James Rico has worked with the duo on three previous music videos and is now creating their fourth.

The show featured three of F-14's friends as guest performers, including the DJ, who kept up a lively atmosphere as Alem and Valentine mingled with the crowd while rapping. Their energy encouraged the patrons dancing by the stage to get involved with their song, "Fist Pump."

The two said they enjoy performing in Manhattan and hope to return for more shows soon.

Students dazzle at 'Project Runway'-style competition

TV show's finalist
Viktor Luna travels
to K-State as judge.

Brittany Stevens
staff writer

When a model emerged from behind a projection screen Friday night wearing an emerald-green bell-shaped skirt and strapless top with transparent cutouts, the audience in the Union Ballroom gasped and erupted into applause before she could make it down the runway.

"I don't know what side of the tracks she came from in the land of Oz ... but it's pretty adorable," said Ty Woo, drag queen personality and judge for the third annual K-State Project Runway competition.

It was no ordinary garment; as part of the student designers' "Project Runway"-style challenge, the dress was constructed of one yard of fabric, a rain poncho and plastic fold-ers.

The acclaimed garment belonged to Collin Campion, junior in apparel and textile design and winner of the competition. The competition was co-sponsored by the LGBT Resource Center and Union Program Council. Cash awards up to \$150 were given away to each winner.

Judge and featured speaker Viktor Luna, third-place winner of season nine of "Project Runway," commanded Campion on his garment.

"I love this one," Luna said. "I wrote, 'Love. Love. Love.' It's stunning and so smart. The whole thing is well thought out and so beautiful. I could see this in the store. It's wearable already."

Although green was not Campion's first choice, the color became his muse.

"I was really inspired by the color I got — an emerald shade — so I wanted to work with that and make something structured and tailored with angular lines like a gemstone."

Second place went to Samantha Caresio, senior in apparel and textiles, for her blue gown, while Carolina Holden, senior in apparel and textiles, won third place for her purple dress.

"Any time I come to any fashion event at K-State, I'm surprised at the talent," said Jasmine Wilcoxson, junior in apparel and textiles. "Tonight just made me really excited because of my passion about

fashion."

One week before the show, the contestants received their fabric — one yard to each competitor in color determined by a button drawing. Students were required to incorporate the fabric, as well as non-fabric materials of the same color.

The judges critiqued technical quality and design, creativity, originality, construction, functionality and wearability, as well as how the garment met the challenge.

Marla Day, apparel and textiles instructor and senior curator for the Historic Costume and Textile Museum, said as a judge, she wanted to see designers who could overcome obstacles through innovation.

"It teaches them something about themselves because right now, working in the classroom, they have sometimes several weeks to somehow solve a problem ... and they haven't had that luxury," Day said.

Cheryl Yacenda, junior in apparel and textiles, grew from the experience.

"I've learned that this is really something that I do love to do and something I want to do for the rest of my life," Yacenda said. "When you get put in those tough situations, you shouldn't give up, because you learn so much."

All of the garments from the event will be on display in Hoffman Lounge in Justin Hall from the last week of February through March.

Luna exposed the designers to the industry with constructive criticism and a presentation on his childhood, his career and his "Project Runway" experience.

"Every year we bring in a diverse speaker who was on 'Project Runway,'" said Paige Strecker, sophomore in elementary education and UPC arts committee co-chair. "We have the LGBT Resource Center co-sponsoring because Viktor — who we brought — is gay. I personally was really impressed with him on the show. He came off on the show as a really cool, down-to-earth guy. I thought he would appeal to K-State students."

Luna commanded the audience's attention when he stepped onto stage wearing a Jeremy Scott black leather jacket with angel wings affixed to the back, a double-breasted sweater, plaid bow-tie, charcoal jeans and metallic sapphire oxfords.

"LGBT has always been

very oppressed in the past ...

and we're still fighting for our



Tommy Theis | Collegian

ABOVE: Designer **Samantha Caresio**, senior in apparel and textiles, stands next to her model, **Andrea Smith**, graduate student in mathematics, as judge **Ty Woo** critiques her design during Friday night's runway show in the K-State Student Union Ballroom.

RIGHT: **Sydney Case**, graduate student in accounting, poses at the end of the runway on Friday evening.

rights," Luna said, before the show. "Fashion is really a big, giant gateway of expression. If I wore this jacket before, people would probably look at me and turn me down and tear me a part, but I think people in society are moving to a more positive way where everybody looks at fashion as an interesting way of expressing yourself."

Luna's ascent in the fashion world was not an easy road. Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, Luna's father immigrated the family to Los Angeles in search of a better life. Luna learned the craft from his mother, a seamstress, and later left for New York City with \$300 in his pocket. He jokingly said that \$300 might have bought a piece of gum. He recalled spending the night in Central Park and working at Bed, Bath & Beyond.

"I'm glad they picked Viktor," said Brandon Haddock, LGBT Resource Center coordinator. "He is one of those guys other people can relate to. He's a positive role model living his dreams. That shows a lot of our students that hey, they are capable of doing the same thing."

Luna spoke of the show's

celebrities, now his friends. He called Tim Gunn a "ray of light." Heidi Klum a "walking weapon" with her disarming smile and Michael Kors, an "uncle that makes everybody laugh."

Luna said he tries to set an example by remaining true to himself and inspiring others to do the same.

"No, I'm gay and I don't let anything stop me from being proud and being out," Luna said. "We're all here — yes, we're designers, we're architects, we're dentists, every-

thing — but we're ultimately human beings and we want to create value to our own kind."

Haddock said he hoped the event would bring together backgrounds as diverse as the rainbow of colors that went down the runway.

"It portrays a positive image for our community," Haddock said. "That's just one of the things we can provide them so they feel like they have something in common with on campus. It helps to strengthen the diversity of what our campus population is like."

Greek Switch Day returns after years of absence

Fraternities, sororities
teach each other steps,
chants: 'If I could do
this again soon, I
would,' student says.

Jakki Thompson
assistant news editor



Jakki Thompson | Collegian

The women of Delta Sigma Theta perform a step routine traditionally performed by the fraternity Kappa Alpha Psi at Greek Switch Day in Union Station on Friday night.

The fraternities and sororities included were Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, Zeta Phi Beta sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, Delta Sigma Theta sorority, and Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, who did not participate in the event, but still taught their steps and chants. The members of each fraternity learned the steps and chants of the sorority their

house was paired with, and the sorority did the same with the paired fraternity.

"It was a really cool experience since it was my first time seeing a Greek Switch Day," said Kabilia Gana, sophomore in chemical engineering. "It was a completely different experience seeing boys doing what girls do and girls doing what boys do. You can tell that they definitely had to work with each other."

At this event, African American fraternities and African American sororities learned each other's chants and steps.

this again soon, I would."

Morgan Johnson, president of Zeta Phi Beta and senior in English, said it was hard finding time for everyone from both greek organizations to practice. Johnson added that it was nice to get the chance to spend quality time with the Alphas, since that is not typical for the Zetas and the Alphas to do.

The Black Student Union's Freshman Action Team and the Pan-Hellenic Council sponsored this event. Alexia Sampson, junior in animal sciences and industry and president of the PHC, said that the PHC sought out the Freshman Action Team. The two groups were wondering how to raise money for the Angela Davis Leadership and Liberation Foundation in Nigeria, which half of the proceeds of this event went to. The other half went to the Freshman Action Team.

"It was great watching all of the people come out and support this cause," Sampson said.

"This year we expanded our publicity out to the residence halls, with support from the Association of Residence Halls. This shows the amount of diversity we have at K-State with

all of the different groups of people coming out."

D'Aonda Bush, freshman in accounting and Spanish and president of the Freshman Action Team, said this event had not been here for a few years. Many people in BSU and PHC missed the event, and people became excited when they found out it was returning to K-State.

"Even though I'm not greek, I was really excited for this event," Bush said. "As the host, I had to be careful of certain sentences or phrases I said to make sure they didn't come off offensively."

This was the first time Bush and Sheron Williams, freshman in accounting and vice president of Freshman Action Team, had put on an event this large. Williams said it was difficult finding the history of Greek Switch Day and making sure that the information was accurate.

"We want to thank everyone for coming out and supporting this event," Williams said. "This is the perfect opportunity to show the talents of so many great leaders we have on the K-State campus."

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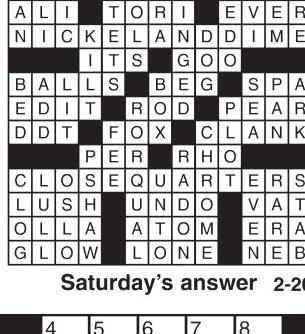


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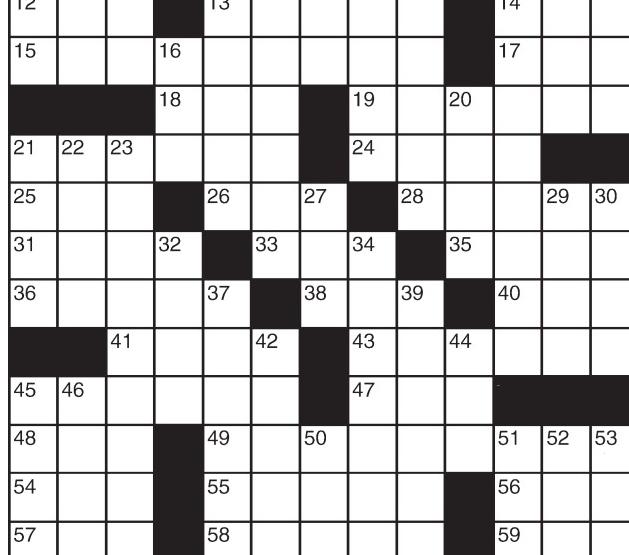


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4 Lying face-down	43 Escaped, as liquid	2 "— was saying, ..."	22 Get up
9 Wheel center	45 Frothy dessert	3 Tibetan bovine	23 Weakling
12 "Born in the —"	47 Doctrine	4 Turkish officials	27 Bankroll
13 Staffers	48 Gorilla	5 Grew mature	29 Rim
14 Yoko of music	49 1996 No Doubt hit	10 One	30 Home-owner's document
15 Colorado mountain	54 Meadow	11 Scrawny	32 Annie Lennox's "No More I Love —"
17 Can metal	55 Walking	16 Biblical verb ending	34 Armed citizenry
18 Definite article	— (elated)	37 Insight	39 Plural of "Mr."
19 Sloppy home	56 Beerlike beverage	42 Indiana's state flower	44 Rock band's need, for short
21 "Little — Annie"	57 Pen fluid	46 Unseal	50 A Bobbsey twin
24 Filth	58 Chatty birds	51 Dine	52 — carte
25 Roman 7	59 Sun-bather's goal	53 Barbie's companion	54
26 Stitch			
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Saturday's answer 2-20



2-20 CRYPTOQUIP

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A W L G M : " G W R R A B M P B B V ." Saturday's Cryptoquip: OVERSEAS DIVISION OF A FAMOUS TOY TRUCK COMPANY SERVING A PACIFIC ISLAND KINGDOM: TONKA TONGA.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals H

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The Collegian welcomes your letters to the editor. They can be submitted by email to letters@kstatecollegian.com or in person to Kedzie 116. Include your full name, year in school and major. Letters should be limited to 350 words. All submitted letters may be edited for length and clarity.

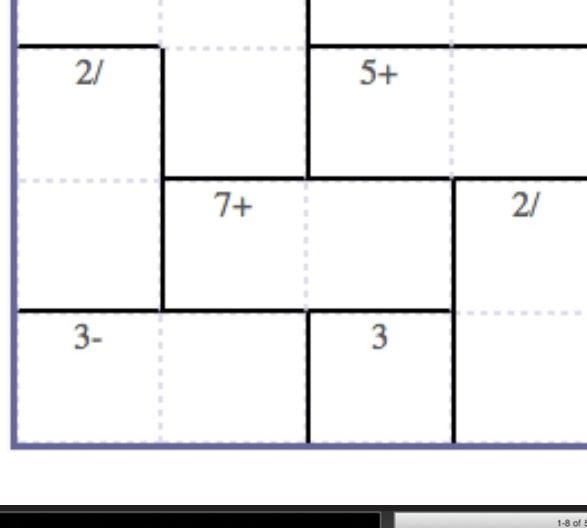
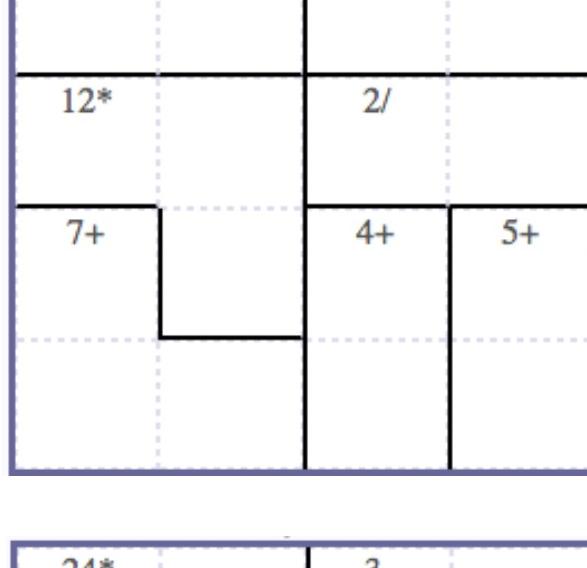
CORRECTIONS

In the article "Wildcat 91.9 studio to retain studio location in Union," Tyrone Williams was misquoted as saying "that we were being asked to vacate."

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, please call our managing editor Kelsey Castanon at 785-532-6556, or email her at news@kstatecollegian.com.

KenKen | Medium

Use numbers 1-4 in each row and column without repeating. The numbers in each outlined area must combine to produce the target number in each area using the mathematical operation indicated.



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January 24, 2011

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1 of 50

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WINNING WEEKEND

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Team comes away with 20-point win over Texas

Kelly McHugh
sports editor

From the strong offensive showing of senior guard Tasha Dickey, who scored a game-high 18 points, to the strong defensive showing of junior guard Mariah White, who came away with a game-high 10 rebounds, it was a team effort by K-State that led the Wildcats to a 65-45 victory over the Texas Longhorns on Saturday night in Bramlage Coliseum.

"Tonight's game was a great defensive effort on our basketball team," Patterson said. "Tonight they really played lockdown. I thought everybody did a great job on our perimeter defense and we boarded the ball extremely well on the defensive boards, and those two elements gave us a chance to pull away and be successful tonight."

The starting lineup for K-State included Dickey, White, senior forward Jalana Childs, junior guard Brittany Chambers and senior forward Branshea Brown, who all worked hard together to secure the win and put the Wildcats at 8-6 in their Big 12 Conference season. The starters were joined by freshman guard Ashia Woods, who came away with three steals during her 17 minutes on the court.

Chambers and Childs also broke into the double-digits for the Wildcats, finishing with 15 and 14 points, respectively, and Chambers came away with an impressive nine rebounds.

"The accountability was high for 40 minutes tonight; instead of just 20 or 30, it was 40 minutes," Chambers said. "And that allowed us to keep their guards under their averages, which, when you can keep any team under their averages, it's going to give you a chance if you're playing offensively for

the win, like we did tonight."

The Wildcats stepped onto the court sporting special pink uniforms as Saturday evening's game was their annual "Play 4Kay" game — an event that aims to bring breast cancer awareness to the court — and the first 4,000 fans received free pink T-shirts.

From the referees' whistles to Willie the Wildcat's uniform, Bramlage Coliseum was filled to the brim with pink. "I thought that was a tremendous crowd for us tonight at home and supporting the 'Play 4Kay' initiative," Patterson said about the fans' support Saturday evening. "That meant a lot to women's basketball, a lot to the Big 12 and certainly a lot to our program, and so I want to sincerely thank our fans today for showing up for the 'Play 4Kay' initiative and proudly wearing pink."

As the game opened, Childs was the first to put points on the board with a quick layup followed by 2 more points by Dickey to give K-State the lead.

Even though the Wildcats were off to a hot start, the Longhorns fired back as they sunk a 3-pointer and went on to gain a quick 5 points.

K-State did not let the game's shaky start get to them, despite the fact that the lead changed four times in the opening 10 minutes. The Wildcats were able to hold the Longhorns to a score of 31-24 at the close of the first half and would not give up their lead the rest of the game.

"We thought they were going to fight back," Chambers said. "And they did, they gave that little spurt, it was like a 9-0 spurt, but we handled ourselves really well and held our composure and kept going."

The second half opened with a quick two points from Dickey, who would go on to score 12 points during that half



Tommy Theis | Collegian

Senior forward Jalana Childs forces her way through the Texas defense to score a quick 2-point layup in Bramlage Coliseum on Saturday evening. The crowd wore pink to support the team's "Play 4Kay" initiative to raise breast cancer awareness.

and finished the game 8-16 from the field. Dickey's hard work and intensity paid off as she played a key role in leading her team to their victory.

"Tasha established early on in the game that she was going to be a very accountable defensively and [her] work ethic was absolutely huge," Patterson

said. "She's playing terrific on the defensive end of the floor and it's carrying over to her decisions offensively."

After their tight loss to the Oklahoma Sooners last Wednesday night, the win over Texas was necessary to keep the Wildcats over .500 and in good standing in the Big 12.

"It was a good step of growth for our team," Patterson said. "It's been a while since we've really been in attack mode right from the get-go."

K-State's next matchup will be against the Oklahoma State Cowgirls at Bramlage Coliseum at 7 p.m. on Wednesday.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Wildcats victorious in first home match

Freshman players help carry team to 7-0 win

Kelly McHugh
sports editor

K-State hosted its first tennis match of the 2012 season and swept the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Trojans with a 7-0 win.

While head coach Steve Bietau said the performance of his team in the opening matches was not quite at the level he expected, he said he was still glad they came away with the win, and he was happy to be playing in their home environment.

"It was certainly great to see people out here," Bietau said. "That's something we work hard to try and promote the matches and let people know we have a good team. It definitely can help us when we're here; we just need to do a better job than what we did at the beginning of the match today."

Sophomore Petra Niedermayerova had another good match for the Wildcats, as she and freshman teammate Carli Wischhoff swept the doubles match with a score of 8-0, and went on to defeat Arkansas-Little Rock's Viktoriya Plyuta 6-1 and 6-2 in the singles.

"We count on Petra to do a good job out there,



Tommy Theis | Collegian

Junior Karla Bonacic winds up to take a swing during her singles match on Saturday at Body First Tennis & Fitness center in Manhattan during the Wildcats' first home match of the season against the University of Arkansas-Little Rock.

and she did," Bietau said about Niedermayerova's performance.

Niedermayerova was happy with the overall performance of her team, and happy to be playing in front of K-State fans.

"I think today was a good day for our team," Niedermayerova said.

"We got a win and we played how we needed to to get some improvement out of this match, so it felt good. I think even though we were kind of nervous because it was the first home match, we handled it well and we didn't lose any unnecessary points."

Junior Ana Gomez Aleman put on an impressive performance, sweeping her first singles match

6-0 and going on to win the second 6-3.

Junior Karla Bonacic also had a good showing for the Wildcats. She and teammate Carmen Borau Ramous, junior, won a tight 8-5 in the doubles match and went on to score 6-2 and 6-3 over the Trojans' Veronique Luk-sich.

Bonacic said she carried what she has been working on in practice into the matches, and while she believes she has more to work on before the next match, playing on their home courts was something good.

"It's really nice to finally have someone cheering for us instead of against us," Bonacic said, "so that

gave me kind of a motive to keep going."

While Bietau said it is normal for his upperclassmen to carry the team, during Saturday's match freshmen Amina St. Hill, Marketa Trousilova and Wischhoff all had impressive showings, winning all of their matches.

"I think our freshmen did a pretty good job,"

Bietau said. "They played those last three matches and one of the big things we look for is: Do the things we practice all the time come through in the matches? And, without going into tremendous detail about that, I'd say they did a pretty good job."

With Saturday's win, K-State is 4-5 in matches this season. The Wildcats look forward to this weekend off as they prepare for a tough upcoming match against the Nebraska Cornhuskers on Feb. 29 in Lincoln, Neb. The Cornhuskers are 7-1 this season and are currently undefeated at home.

"We need to get a little fresh," Bietau said. "We've traveled a lot and we've

played a lot of really tough matches, and, by and large, we've done a good job, but we're not fresh team right now. So the next 10 days will give us a chance to do that as well as work on some things before we play Nebraska."

MEN'S BASKETBALL

K-State drops No. 10 Baylor

Jared Brown
staff writer

After dropping back-to-back Big 12 Conference games, the Wildcats (18-8, 7-7 Big 12) needed a signature road win to add to their NCAA tournament resume if they wanted to keep their tournament hopes alive. They got that win Saturday afternoon as they took down the No. 10 Baylor Bears 57-56 in Waco, Texas.

The game featured 15 lead changes, the most important one coming when freshman guard Angel Rodriguez alley-ooped to junior forward Jordan Henriquez with 1:55 left to play in the game that gave the Wildcats a 1-point advantage.

Baylor (22-5, 9-5) had chances to win the game in the closing seconds but K-State's defense held strong and Henriquez blocked Baylor freshman forward Quincy Miller to seal the victory for the Wildcats.

"It's all about that last effort, the 50-50 ball," Henriquez said. "Those are the kind of plays you have to make to win the game. In that possession, that's the play we came up with."

Henriquez finished the game with 9 points, seven rebounds and three blocks in 25 minutes played.

Rodriguez and junior guard Rodney McGruder led the Wildcats, each scoring 15 points. Rodriguez added four steals and six assists in 39 minutes played.

"It always feels good to win," Rodriguez said. "Especially when we've lost a couple games and lost them at home. Coming into their building and winning this game after all the losses we've had feels great."

The first time K-State faced off against Baylor this season in Manhattan, the Bears edged the Wildcats in the closing minutes, defeating K-State 75-73. The Wildcats were able to avenge that loss on Saturday.

"We've had some great games with K-State the last couple of years," said Baylor head coach Scott Drew. "This was just like the last one up at their place, difference is we ended up on the losing end. I thought we rebounded well; they're the top rebounding team in the conference. They had 14 offensive rebounds, we just didn't make enough, so the effort was there, we just didn't get enough points on the second-chance points. Eighteen turnovers is by far too many and that really hurt us. The big thing is that we got leads, got chances to extend and we didn't take advantage of that. Credit to K-State for making big plays."

With the win, K-State head coach Frank Martin is now 4-3 against Baylor. Although the Wildcats are generally thought of as a physical team, they have been particularly tough as of late.

"These guys come in and they don't let things get them down," Martin said after the win against the Bears on Saturday. "Practices are great. Someone said to me the other day, 'You don't seem as animated on the sideline.' What should I be animated about? These guys are trying their hearts out. Just because the ball doesn't go in the basket sometimes doesn't make us a bad team. These guys are trying to do what we ask them to do, and when you're disciplined and take care of your responsibilities, what is there to stomp around about? They come to practice every day, they take it seriously, and they've been great."

The Wildcats return to the hardwood Tuesday night when they take on the No. 3 Missouri Tigers (25-2, 12-2) in Columbia, Mo., at 6 p.m. They game will be televised on ESPN-2. K-State defeated Missouri in the first meeting earlier this season, 75-59, in Manhattan. Although the Wildcats have lost four straight games at Mizzou Arena, K-State will be looking to add another road win against a top-10 opponent.

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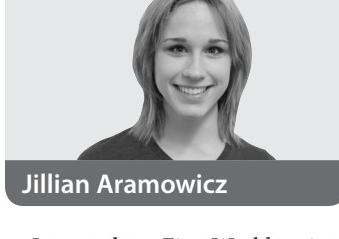
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Negative male stereotypes overemphasized, overlooked in media



Jillian Aramowicz

In a modern, First World society where equality and the elimination of gender bias is more present than ever, it is generally unarguable that most of the emphasis we place on equal treatment of the sexes is primarily focused on women.

Historically, like all people who have gone through oppression, women in our culture have made great strides in overcoming chauvinism and unfair treatment. I am not going to argue the point that gender bias still exists today, because I know that it does.

Many things that we see in the media that portray females in a negative light cause huge, angry controversies. If an advertisement shows a stereotype of a girl that makes her seem ditzy, annoying, shallow or over-sexualized, we ladies are the first to jump on how inappropriate, ignorant and degrading it is to us.

However, if a commercial shows a guy acting dumb, incompetent or idiotic, no one says anything, even if the stereotype is so far off the mark it isn't even relevant to almost any man watching.

For example, consider commercials aimed at women that market household products, foods or domestic goods.

If portrayed in an attempted humorous light, many ads show a wife and her totally lost and dorky husband making idiotic remarks or actions.

A fairly recent commercial for Orville Redenbacher's popcorn shows a family on vacation in an RV while the typical wife character makes popcorn. The husband leaves the driver seat to come eat it, giving a classic dumb-and-confused face until he realizes he did, in fact, leave the driver's seat, while operating a moving vehicle.

What if it had been a "women can't drive" commercial?

I am not saying that the poor stereotypes of women in advertising aren't offensive or just plain stupid. I am just pointing out the fact that the same stereotypes are present for men, too, but not as

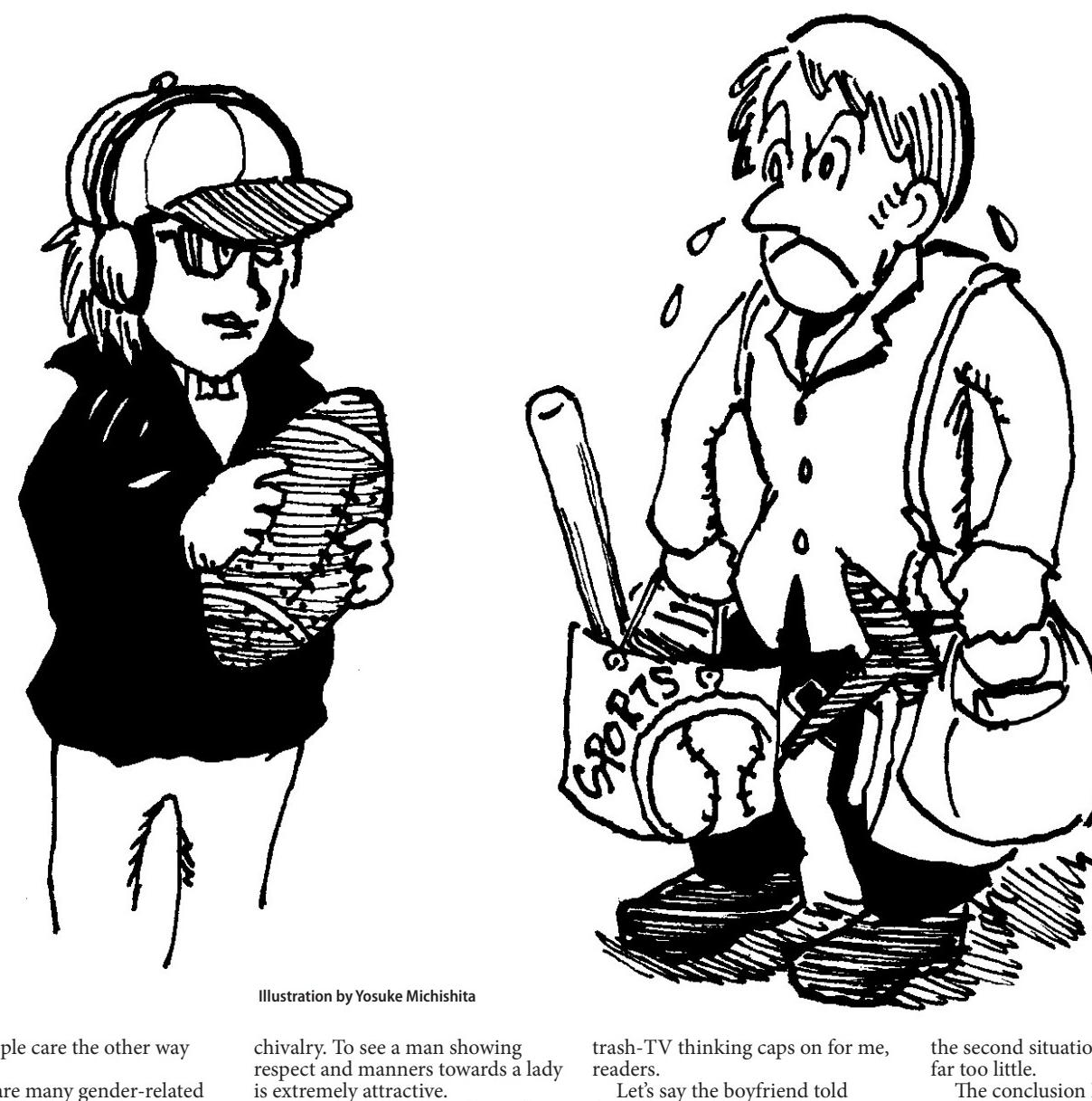


Illustration by Yosuke Michishita

many people care the other way around.

There are many gender-related double standards that also affect the balance of our relationships. Not only in advertising, but in our culture in general, are the norms for what a man and a woman's role entail still practiced.

Although the happy housewife ideal of submissiveness and domestic responsibility has faded drastically for women in the United States, the idea of a man being financially responsible and always paying for the lady when out in public, for instance, is still looked upon as a normal standard.

Don't get me wrong, men — I absolutely love gentlemen and

chivalry. To see a man showing respect and manners towards a lady is extremely attractive.

The point is, both genders take certain traits and behaviors of the opposite sex for granted. I feel that many women whose idea of complete equality is centered around achieving the same status as a man need to re-evaluate their definition of "equality" and whether or not they truly want men and women to engage in the exact same set of societal expectancies all the time.

Even in our personal lives, there are unfair stereotypes for both genders.

Assume a couple was having intimacy issues and appearing on a daytime talk show. Get your

trash-TV thinking caps on for me, readers.

Let's say the boyfriend told the host his girlfriend didn't have enough sex and he was frustrated and just wanted more from her. The reaction would be negative towards the man. How dare he say something so selfish and shallow?

What if the situation were reversed and the woman came on the show to say her boyfriend did not satisfy her needs, he didn't do enough sexually and she was desperate to have a better sex life?

Both times, the reaction would be "what's wrong with you, you egotistical male pig?" But in the first situation, it would be because he was asking for too much and in

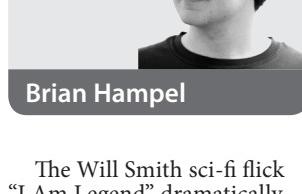
the second situation he was doing far too little.

The conclusion I would like to make with this is that maybe equality is the wrong blanket term to be using when dealing with gender stereotypes. Perhaps a more effective mindset would be impartiality.

Men and women are not the same. They never will be. We deserve the same respect as each other, but to take offense only when it's your gender being typecast is just as bad as if you were acting like the stereotype you hate so much in the first place.

Jillian Aramowicz is a senior in advertising. Please send all comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

Fiction reflects society's tendency to demonize enemies blindly



Brian Hampel

The Will Smith sci-fi flick "I Am Legend" dramatically changed the ending of the Richard Matheson novel it was based on, and it completely missed the point in doing so. In the movie, Will Smith is one of the last people on earth in the wake of a vampire disease apocalypse, and it ends with him finding a cure for the disease, then killing a group of vampires with a grenade to protect his cure.

In the ending of the Matheson novel, the character learns that the vampires were actually intelligent creatures forming their own society. The whole point of the book, and even the title, comes from his realization that he had been killing intelligent beings all along and that he had become a legend to the vampires. This realization and the whole message of the novel were completely lost by the Will Smith adaptation. The vampires were just monsters.

This isn't just an example of adaptation decay. It also points to an unfortunate trend in our pop culture: We hate trying to understand our enemies. Sympathetic, humanized villains in fiction are rare, probably because we prefer to just despise them and



Illustration by Christina Klein

celebrate when they die. If pop culture is a mirror of our own culture, this trend is reflecting our very real love of demonizing our opponents.

When a driver cuts us off on the road, do we ask ourselves why that fellow is in such a hurry, or do we jump to honking and road rage? When someone stands starkly across from us on political issues, do we try to examine their perspective, or are we more likely to call them anti-American?

Before the South Park episode about the Somali pirates, how many of us stopped to wonder what the pirates' lives must have been like to drive them to such desperation?

Sympathizing with enemies has never been a strong point in mass media. A particularly

bizarre example appeared in the 1994 Arnold Schwarzenegger movie "True Lies," which pitted Arnie against an Arab terrorist.

In his message broadcast to American TV, our Arab acquaintance told America, "You have murdered our women and our children and bombed our cities from afar, like cowards, and you dare to call 'us' terrorists?" I thought this was an interesting point to make, and since James Cameron directed the movie, I fully expected an exploration of the man's background and why he saw himself as a freedom fighter. Instead, Arnie did what Arnie does best and blew him up with an airplane missile.

Perhaps even more worry-

ingly, the lack of humanized villains is all the more apparent in children's entertainment. As much as we all love them, none of the Disney classics made much effort to give their villains redeeming qualities.

In fact, it's fair to say that Disney's "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" took most of the good qualities away from the Frollo that Victor Hugo created. From the realm of kids' TV, I like to think of Swiper the Fox as a toddler's version of the Joker, since he seems to have no goals in life beyond sowing chaos for Dora and Boots.

The two most successful superhero movies to date, in terms of box office gross and critical reception, are the se-

quels "The Dark Knight" and "Spider-Man 2," and I think they present quintessential, opposing examples of the two villain archetypes.

The Joker is the embodiment of evil and chaos, while Doctor Octopus is a misguided idealist.

Although Heath Ledger's Joker was a wonderful presence onscreen, he lived in a moral netherworld. Murder and chaos didn't faze the Joker any more than shaking hands, and nothing about the character was heroic, or even decent. Rather, he exists to be the opposite of the noble Batman.

Alfred Molina's Doc Ock, on the other hand, was introduced to the audience as a likeable genius, only turning to crime after losing his wife

and career. Even as a villain, he tried to continue his research on an infinite power source for all the world to use, and he still managed to straighten his priorities and redeem himself in the film's climax.

While the Joker seemed totally aware of his role as the villain, Doc Ock was more of an anti-villain, a good person in bad circumstances who saw himself as the good guy working for the benefit of mankind.

While it's tempting and easy to cast our own enemies as the Joker, a little bit of understanding can go a long way. Most people who slight us are either victims of circumstance, misguided or unaware that they're hurting anyone.

The waitress you thought was trying to rip you off simply could have been tired and stressed that day. That political activist you think is trying to tear this country apart probably believes that he's standing up for justice.

Could others just as easily characterize us as terrible people for reasons just as shoddy?

If you were watching a movie about that waitress's day-to-day life, you would probably empathize with the poor girl. The trouble is that we're not used to looking from her perspective. If more fiction out there had developed, humanized villains, maybe we'd realize that in most of real life, there aren't any villains.

Brian Hampel is a junior in architecture. Please send all comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Response to independent SGA candidates

As an involved student in several multicultural organizations, I was intrigued by Corey Glaser's comments in the article titled "Independent candidates join SGA race, platform focuses on allocations."

I was shocked that out of all the allocations budgeted, the funding from Diversity Program Committee is questioned. Glaser stated "We're spending \$26,000 on a really good musician to come in here to talk about diversity, when there was probably an equally good speaker available for less."

My issue is what Glaser fails to realize, that out of all the diversity speakers invited only the big named speakers have large attendance. For years multicultural organizations such as Black Student Union, Asian American Student Union,

Hispanic American Leadership Organization and countless others host and publicize several diversity events open to all K-state students every school year.

Some of these events include Vietnam Veterans Tribute, Martin Luther King Observance Week and Native American Cultural Night. However, these events had minimal attendance and were mainly supported by other multicultural organizations or students receiving extra credit.

As a diverse student, it's frustrating to invite great inexpensive diversity speakers and students have to be bribed to attend. Ironically when diverse performers/entertainers are invited there are no issues or complaints, but when a multi-talented celebrity comes to speak on diversity, for which DPC was created,

it's considered "wasteful, unnecessary spending."

Now "Don't get me wrong, I love me some Mos Def" as well, but he was invited because he is an activist, humanitarian and philanthropist, not just a performer.

So Glaser, as an independent candidate for SGA who's looking out for the "smaller groups," my question is: What small groups are you referring to? Because it was a small group of ten people that invited Mos Def that you are attacking. So before start making statements about "wasteful spending," do your research.

Anita Easterwood
junior in art

ONLINE POLL

What do you think the punishment should be for Cole Drake, 15-year-old Manhattan resident, who shot and killed a classmate last year?

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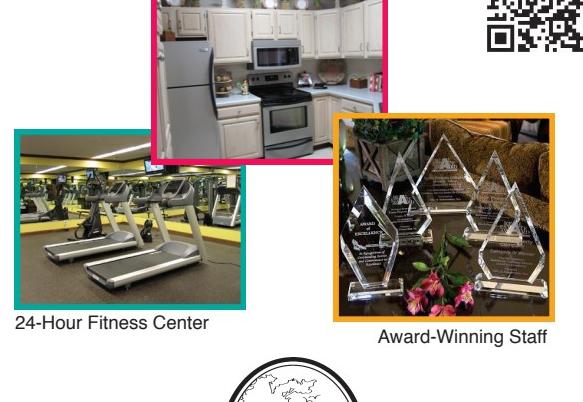
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